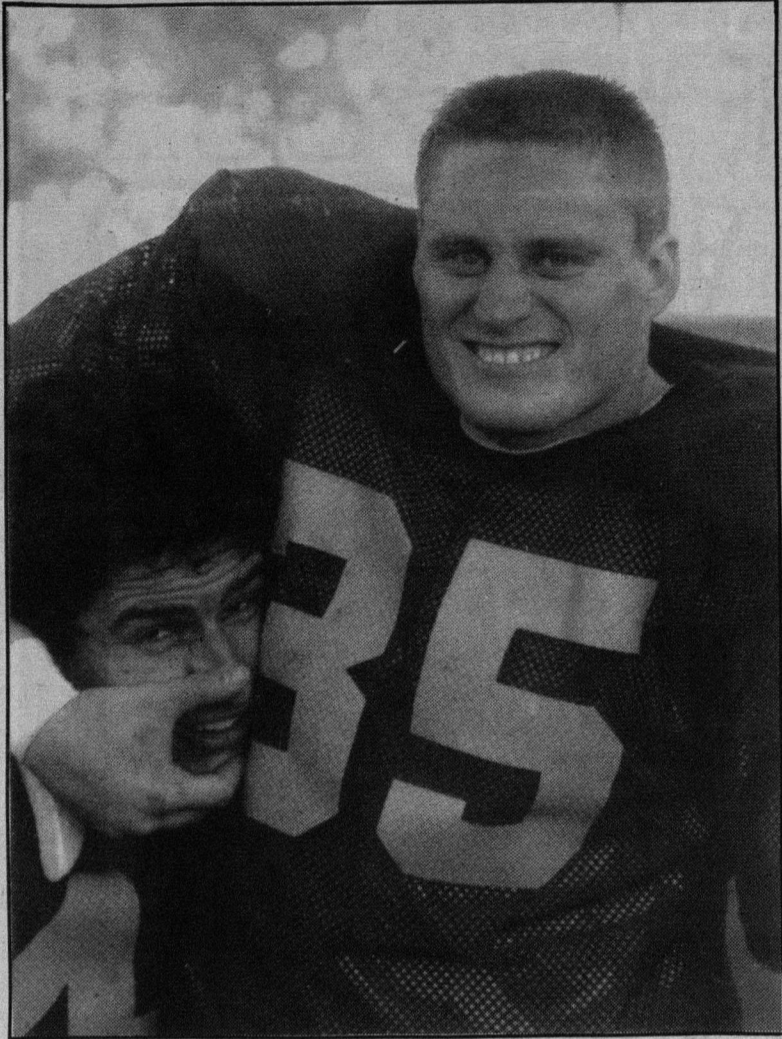


Bear defenders prepare for test



Jeff Cowley

Headlock!

Len Sawatzky uses Mark Singer as a tackling dummy. The two linebackers will have their hands full against the Huskies.

1989-90 hockey faces off

by Jay O'Neill

This weekend the University of Alberta Golden Bears hockey team hosts the Golden Bear Invitational hockey tournament.

The tournament will consist of the University of Alberta Bears rookies and three teams from the Alberta Junior Hockey League. These teams are the Sherwood Park Crusaders, St. Albert Saints and Fort Saskatchewan Traders.

Golden Bears Head Coach Bill Moores will use the tournament as an evaluation tool for judging his rookies.

"It gives us an opportunity to evaluate them (rookies) against players (from) that league (AJHL)" said Moores.

Moores feels all teams involved benefit from the tournament. He says each team can evaluate their own talent and the AJHL teams can evaluate the Bears.

If some of the Bears' rookies

cannot crack the line-up then the Bears would "like to place them somewhere where they can play the best hockey possible around and that would be Tier II (AJHL)" said Moores.

The Bears can then keep track on how these players are playing to see if they can make the jump to the Bears next season.

Moores feels the body contact that the rookies will face is a good indicator if they will be able to play in the Canada West division of the CIAU.

"Guys who looked very good where there's not quite as much contact in training camp and when it really gets rough or very physical, their not strong enough to handle that yet" said Moores.

The round robin tournament kicks off today at 5:00 p.m. with the Bears playing the St. Albert Saints at Varsity Arena. The final will be played on Sunday at 1:00 p.m. between the top two finishers.

Last year, while interviewing Doug McCarthy of the Bears hockey team after a late-season game, I mentioned the great crowd: a nearly-full house, mostly students, had Clare Drake rink a-rockin' for the second week in a row. He said something which surprised me.

The week before, the Bears had played in front of the biggest crowd of the year, at the Ed students' Cheer for Beer. McCarthy told me he was glad to see the students come back, because he was afraid "They were only here for the beer."

I thought of that this weekend, when the football team drew the largest crowd in Varsity field for

by Ajay Bhardwaj

From the start of the year the Golden Bear coaching staff felt the football team had a strong defence. This weekend the defence will face a stiff test from the University of Saskatchewan Huskies.

Saskatchewan scored 26 points against the University of Calgary and they possess three of the top ten receivers in the Canada West division. "They have the best runningback-pass receiver in the league in Terry Eisler," said defensive backfield Dan Syrotuik.

Since Eisler will be coming out of the offensive backfield to snare some passes, Bear linebackers will have their hands full. "Eisler is a heck of a runningback with good speed," said linebacker Jeff Tobert. "We're making adjustments so that we can put our best people on him, and that usually means (linebacker) Mark Singer," Tobert continued.

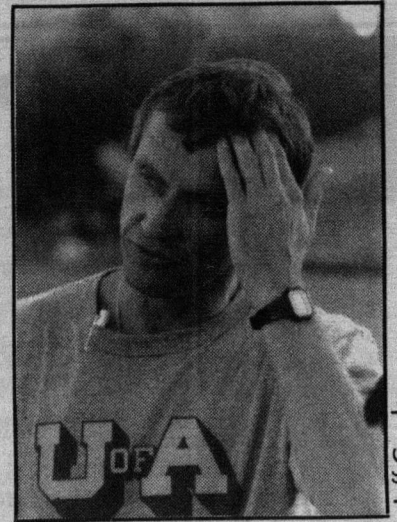
The Bear defence will be put to the test by a ball control offence. "They control the ball by running short (pass) patterns," said Syrotuik.

"They get into the second and three situation," he said.

Just how the Bears plan to combat the Husky offence is yet to be determined. "There's a number of ways to play against that type of offence: you can double the receivers, you can force the quarterback by sending (blitzing) people, or you can jam the receivers," said Syrotuik. "But zone is tough when they throw the ball quickly."

The Huskies have lost slotback Dan Farthing, an all-Canadian and their best receiver. "That makes things easier," said defensive Dwight Kosolofski. But Syrotuik isn't in a hurry to agree with his halfback. "(Saskatchewan) has replaced (Farthing) with a traditional tight end," he said. Lorne Keen is the 'traditional tight end' Syrotuik alluded to and he's currently second in receptions in Canada West. Keen was named the Most Valuable Player of the Border Bowl.

"He (Keen) can play inside and wide receiver," said Syrotuik. "He's also a very good blocker, but he



Jeff Cowley

Coach Dan Syrotuik ponders defensive plan.

hasn't threatened deep yet."

The Bears beat the Huskies 30-27 in the Border Bowl, but according to linebacker Len Sawatzky. "In the first half we played mostly first year players and they played their first string," said Sawatzky. "In the second half we put in our first string and they used their second string." Saskatchewan dominated the first half while Alberta dominated the second.

Bears burn Oiler kids

...late goal puts U of A on top

by Alan Small

Brett Cox's goal with 36 seconds left capped the Golden Bears second third period comeback and gave the Bears a 7-6 victory over the Oiler rookies.

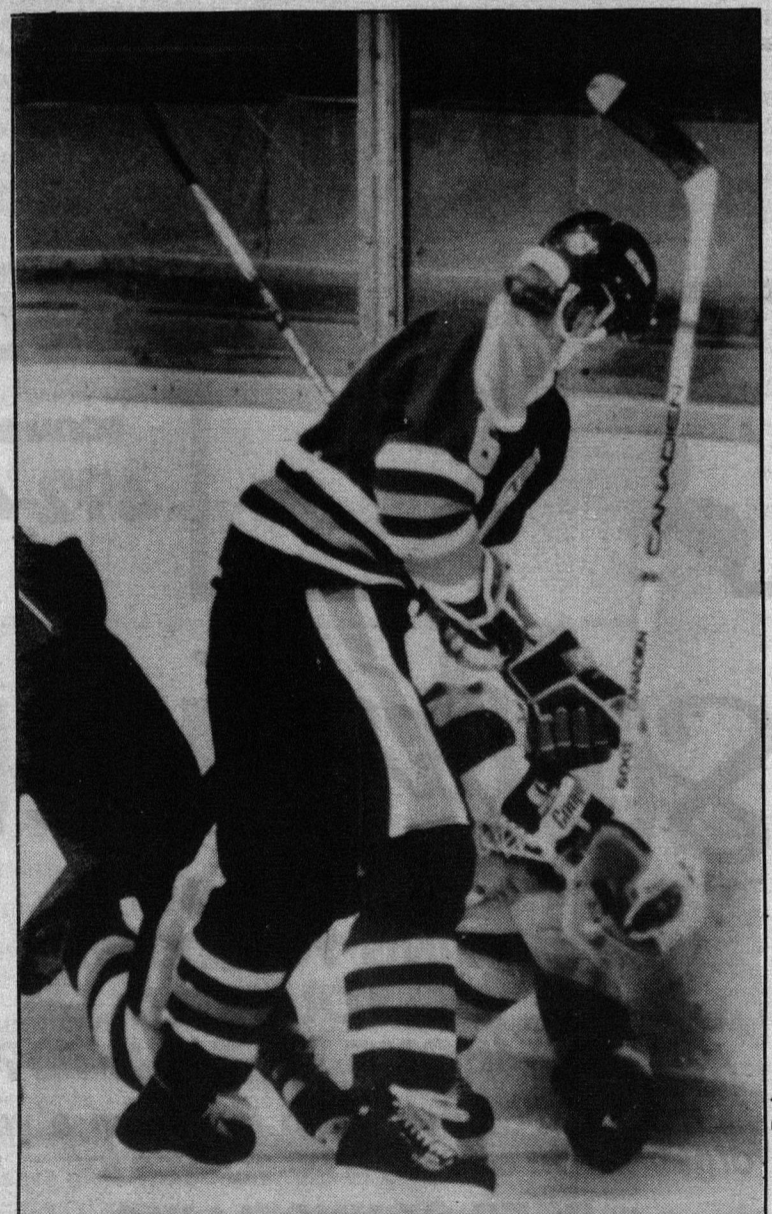
That overshadowed a five point night by defenceman Howie Draper and an Adam Morrison hat trick.

"I don't know how. I'm just as surprised as you," said Draper, over his performance. "I just seemed to be the last guy who touched the puck."

The Bears were down 5-3 with less than five minutes left, until Oiler Ivan Matulik took a spearing major, which led to two Bear power play goals. Defenceman Guy Paradis ripped one by the short side of Oiler goalie Jeff Greenlay, while Dan Baker slid one under Greenlay after deking him.

Martin Gelinas scored to give the Oilers the lead, until Morrison scored with the Bear net empty. Cox then supplied the dramatics.

The win was Billy Moores' first since taking over the Bear head coaching job.



Dragos Ruitu

Oiler rookie Jason Soules crushes Bear forward Brett Cox.

of chairman—was primarily responsible for that policy. Based on attendance at last year's Shrine Bowl, that policy was a failure.

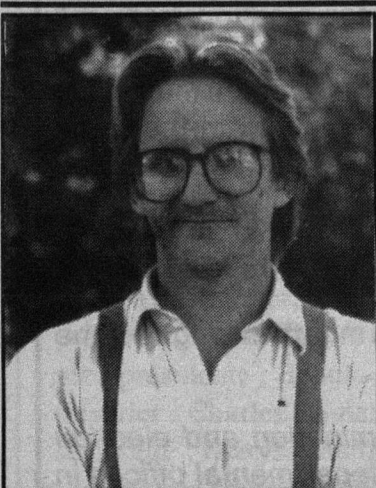
The question is whether or not Athletics can make a success out of on-campus promotions. Lining up a Cheer for Beer for every game might work, but Athletics, and the University administration in general, are not in favor of selling sports via beer.

One of the big problems with beer at university events is that it is hard to sell Golden Bear hockey as a family outing when there are a couple thousand drunk

undergrads screaming obscenities. Even when the language is clean, I wouldn't want any three-year-old of mine in the rink when Calgary's playing.

So Athletics is left with a clear, hard choice: on- or off-campus? New marketing director Donna Gingera has indicated her preference for targeting the student market. Saturday will give her a very clear idea of how far she has to go.

If, after seeing a blowout like last weekend's win, the students don't come back, then I guess it'll mean they were only there for the beer.



by Randal Smathers